

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2242

E. O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJ: RABBI KAHANE APPEARS TO THREATEN TO KIDNAP

SOVIET AMBASSADOR

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF A " PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL" LETTER SENT TO AMBASSADOR SCALI BY THE LEGAL COUNSEL OF THE UN (STRAVROPOULOS). WE WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER AFTER RECEIVING THE ADVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ON THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY STAVROPOULOS WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF U. S. CRIMINAL LAW, IN PARTICULAR CONSPIRACY INCITEMENT TO KIDNAPPING DIPLOMATS OR THE CRIMINAL USE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THEM. LETTER READS BEGIN QUOTE

AT THE 16 TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY HELD ON 3 MAY 1973, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET UNION REFERRED TO AN ANTI- SOVIET CAMPAIGN ' MIN THE YELLOW PRESS, WHICH ADVOCATED EXTREME MEASURES AGAINST SOVIET CITIZENS INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL AND OFFERED ADVICE ON HOW TO GO ABOUT IT' (A/ AC.154/ SR.16, PAGE 2). IT WOULD SEEM THAT HE WAS SPEAKING IN PARTICULAR OF AN ARTICLE ENTITLED (ISRAEL NEWS ANALYSIS' WHICH APPEARED IN THE WEEKLY PAPER ' THE JEWISH PRESS' PUBLISHED IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY, ON 2 MARCH 1973. A PHOTOCOPY OF THE ARTICLE IS ENCLOSED.

THIS ARTICLE, WRITTEN BY RABBI MEIR KAHANE, WHO
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IN 1971 WAS CONVICTED ON THREE OCCASIONS IN THE STATE AND FEDERAL COURTS FOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES IN CONNEXION WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF THE JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE, WAS INFORMALLY DRAWN TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR MISSION AT

THE TIME IT WAS PUBLISHED. I BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS SERIOUS ENOUGH TO INVITE YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION. IN MANY PASSAGES THE ARTICLE ESPOUSED THE USE OF VIOLENCE FOR POLITICAL ENDS. AS AN ILLUSTRATION PERMIT ME TO QUOTE FROM PARAGRAPH 17:

' THERE IS A NEED FOR BOTH A GROUP THAT MILITANTLY ACTS ON JEWISH INTERESTS AND IS PUBLICLY KNOWN, AS WELL AS A SECRET, MILITANT GROUP THAT CONCENTRATES- NOT ON JEWISH EDUCATION OR QUOTAS OR JEWISH POOR OR NEIGHBOURHOOD PATROLS OR ALIYA- BUT ONLY ON EXTREME, VIOLENT MEANS AGAINST JEWISH ENEMIES. THE FIRST CAN BE- AND SHOULD BE- PUBLICLY AVAILABLE. THE OTHER DARE NOT.'"

CONCERNING THE INDIVIDUALS CONTEMPLATED BY THE AUTHOR AS VICTIMS OF THE ADVOCATED VIOLENCE THE ARTICLE CONTAINS, INTER ALIA, THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:

(1) ' HOW MANY SOVIET JEWS WOULD, TODAY, BE IN ISRAEL HAD THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES BEEN KIDNAPED BY JEWISH MILITANTS AS THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIETS WERE IN THE FIRST PHASES OF THEIR COMMONLY DESIRED PROGRAM OF CO- EXISTENCE?' (PARAGRAPH 9)

(2) ' HAS THE TIME NOT COME FOR GROUPS OF JEWS TO ACT WITH EXTREME MEASURES AGAINST THE SOVIETS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AND THE WEST..' (PARAGRAPH 13)

(3) ' IF THE ARAB TERROR THREAT '... ' ARE WE SUPPOSED TO WAIT UNTIL EVERY LYDDA AND MUNICH TO GROW ANGRY AND DEMAND THAT THE APATHETIC WORLD HELP US? HAS THE TIME NOT COME FOR GROUPS OF JEWS TO ACT AGAINST THE TERRORISTS AND AGAINST THE OFFICIALS AND EMBASSIES THAT SUPPORT THEM SO
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AS TO PREVENT ANY FUTURE PLUCKING OF JEWISH LIVES?' (PARAGRAPH 14)

YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER EXPLORING WITH THE APPROPRIATE STATE AND FEDERAL AUTHORITIES THE EXTENT TO WHICH PUBLICATION OF THIS ARTICLE MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF PENAL LAWS EITHER AS CONSPIRACY, INCITEMENT OR INDUCEMENT TO KIDNAPPING DIPLOMATS OR THE CRIMINAL USE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THEM.

THIS ARTICLE ADVOCATING INTER ALIA THE KIDNAPPING OR USE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL FROM THE PERMANENT MISSIONS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND ARAB STATES MAY BE VIEWED AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF INCREASED

CRIME AGAINST DIPLOMATS IN MANY LOCALITIES. IT IS RE-MARKABLE THAT THIS ARTICLE WAS PUBLISHED AT ALMOST THE SAME TIME AS THE ACTS OF TERRORISM WERE OCCURRING IN KHARTOUM WITH SUCH TRAGIC RESULTS . IT WILL NOT BE SURPRISING IF USE IS MADE OF THIS ARTICLE IN THE COURSE OF THE MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 16 JULY TO 10 AUGUST 1973 END QUOTE

2. TEXT OF KAHANE ARTICLE BEING POUCHED NELSON, L/ UNA, BY REGISTERED POUCH NO.5164.

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